

Latin Tradition in Europe (A005349)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2)	Dutch	Gent	seminar independent work lecture
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Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Verbaal, Wim	LW07	lecturer-in-charge
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Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Latin)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Latin)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Latin)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Swedish)	5	A
Micro-credential The Forgotten Literature	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin)	5	A
Elective Set The Classical Tradition	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Latin, literary history, European cultural history, cosmopolitanism

Position of the course

This introductory course explores the importance of Latin and Latin literature for European cultural history, from Late Antiquity til modern times. The course continues in the line of the course on Ancient Literature.

Contents

Students receive an overview of Latin literature within the European context. An introductory lecture examines the concept of a "dead" language and its survival. The remaining lectures provide an overview of Latin literature and its impact on European cultural history. The overview is done in part through selected and representative text passages in Latin and translation.

Students are introduced to the distinctiveness of Latin literature in different historical periods and from different thematical perspectives. The story of Latin literature is thereby set within the framework of European history. Political, social and cultural developments in Europe are discussed in so far as they were important for the development of Latin literature.

Initial competences

To have successfully completed the courses Latin: Language competence I and Literature of the Antiquity or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

Final competences

- 1 Have knowledge of Latin literature as a European literature
- 2 Have knowledge of the major periods in Latin literary history and of texts and/or authors representative of them.
- 3 Be able to situate Latin writers and texts within the Latin literary history of Europe
- 4 Be able to situate Latin writers and texts against the historical background of their period
- 5 Be able to recognize and indicate in Latin texts characteristics of the different periods in Latin literary history
- 6 Have an understanding of the specific background knowledge needed to read and understand Latin literature from different periods and know how to acquire this knowledge
- 7 Have knowledge of the functioning of the Latin language and literature within European history

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Response lecture (opening lectures at the different thematic parts): contact hours (on campus), in which the theoretical framework is given to understand the narrative of the Latin tradition in Europe

Work colleges (other lectures): contact hours (on campus), in which after a short explanation of the introductory readings, texts are read and discussed in group.

Independent work: preparatory reading of introductory texts to the Latin text passages to be read in the seminars.

Group work: in dialogue checking the proper reading to that of a colleague, responding the online questions as a group, the preparation of one's own short comparison and assessment of a small corpus of texts

Study material

None

References

- Verbaal, W., "De oudheid en de bunker", *DCG 54* (2021) 15-30
- Pranger, M.B., "The Artifice of Eternity", *The Artificiality of Christianity*, hoofdstuk 1
- Auerbach, E., "Fortunata", *Mimesis*, hoofdstuk 2
- Davies, N., "Peninsula", *Europe: A History*, hoofdstuk 1

Course content-related study coaching

- 1 Intensive and interactive reading of texts during contact hours.
- 2 exercise sessions
- 3 essay with feedback

Assessment moments

continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Skills test, Participation, Oral assessment open-book, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Non-period related:

Assignment + Participation: portfolio consisting of the online answered questions to the independently read texts (partim participation) + own reading and answering background literature (assignment: mini-essay)

Skills test: testing of acquired skills in approaching the texts read independently after treatment during the lectures

Oral assessment open book: evaluation discussion of the texts read on the basis of work piece and portfolio

Calculation of the examination mark

Oral assessment open book: 50%

Assignment: 30%

Portfolio (participation): 20%

Thorough command of Latin as acquired during the course units in the first semester (Latin: Language Proficiency I, Literature of Antiquity) is assumed to be known. Evidence of failure in this area may result in a failure to pass the entire exam.

Having less than 10/20 in any of the above components may result in a failure to pass the entire course unit. If the final score would still be a grade of ten or more out of twenty, it will be reduced to the highest failing grade.

(If the student did not pass the non-period evaluation, a second chance will be offered through a compensatory activity between the first and second examination periods.)

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:

1 Possibility of exemption from attendance with substitute literature assignment after consultation with responsible teacher.

2 Possibility of exam at other time within the academic year.

3 Possibility of feedback after making an appointment during office hours.

For more information on flexible studying: <http://www.flw.ugent.be/flexibelstudere>